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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/015,408	12/12/2001	Robert J. DiStasio	6177-16	9888

7590 11/22/2002

Fleit, Kain, Gibbons,
Gutman & Bongini, P.L.
750 S.E. Third Avenue, Suite 100
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316-1153

EXAMINER

SMITH, JAMES G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3723

DATE MAILED: 11/22/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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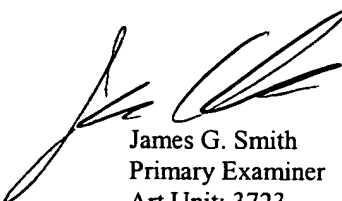
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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

The timely submission under 37 CFR 1.129(a) filed on 18 November 2002 is not fully responsive to the prior Office action because it did not elect one of the enumerated species, but apparently was a copy of the prior election. As the requirement was changed, the prior election does not apply. Since the submission appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to provide a complete reply to the prior Office action, applicant is given a shortened statutory period of ONE MONTH or THIRTY DAYS from the mailing date of this letter, whichever is longer, to submit a complete reply. This shortened statutory period supersedes the time period set in the prior Office action. This time period may be extended pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a). If a notice of appeal and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) were filed prior to or with the payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(r), the payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(r) by applicant is construed as a request to dismiss the appeal and to continue prosecution under 37 CFR 1.129(a). The appeal stands dismissed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to James G. Smith at telephone number 703-308-1746.


James G. Smith
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 3723